

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claim 4 and add new claims 24-31.

Please amend claim 1, 12, 15, 17, and 23 as indicated below.

1. (Currently Amended) A system comprising:
a receiving station configured to receive a broadcast signal containing program data; and
a programmable ~~toy~~ device configured to be coupled to said receiving station and to
receive said program data from said receiving station;
wherein one of said receiving station and said programmable device is configured to
select a portion of said program data; and
wherein said programmable device is configured to store said portion of said program
data;
wherein said receiving station is configured to transmit a notification signal to said
programmable device to indicate that said receiving station is ready to transmit
said program data to said programmable device, and wherein said programmable
device is configured to emit a user-sensible signal to indicate that said
programmable device should be brought into communication with said receiving
station.
2. The system of claim 1 wherein said one of said receiving station and said programmable
device is configured to select said portion of said program data according to a set of stored user
preferences and to discard the remainder of said program data.
3. The system of claim 2 said one of said receiving station and said programmable device is
configured to construct said set of stored user preferences.
4. (Canceled).

5. The system of claim 1 further comprising a broadcast station configured to transmit said broadcast signal, wherein said broadcast station is configured to cyclically transmit a carousel of modules containing said program data.
6. The system of claim 5 wherein said one of said receiving station and said programmable device is configured to select said portion of said program data without transmitting an indication of said portion of said program data to said broadcast station.
7. The system of claim 5 wherein said broadcast station comprises a television broadcast station.
8. The system of claim 1 wherein each of said receiving station and said programmable device includes a transceiver for bidirectional communication between said receiving station and said programmable device, and wherein said programmable device is configured as an input device to said receiving station.
9. The system of claim 8 wherein said transceivers comprise wireless transceivers.
10. The system of claim 1 wherein said receiving station is configured to transmit instructional cues to said programmable device and wherein said programmable device is configured to provide said instructional cues to a user.
11. The system of claim 10 wherein said instructional cues comprise streaming speech data, wherein said programmable device comprises a speaker, and wherein said programmable device is configured to transmit said streaming speech data to said speaker upon receipt of said streaming speech data from said receiving station.
12. (Currently Amended) A method comprising:
broadcasting data to a plurality of receiving stations;
receiving said data ~~modules~~ at one of said receiving stations;
selecting a portion of said data;

transmitting a notification signal to a programmable device to indicate that said receiving station is ready to transmit said data to said programmable device, and wherein said programmable device is configured to emit a user-sensible signal to indicate that said programmable device should be brought into communication with said receiving station;

transmitting said selected portion of said data to [a] said programmable device; and programming said programmable device according to said selected portion of said data.

13. The method of claim 12 further comprising a user locally selecting said selected portion of said data.

14. The method of claim 13 wherein said selecting comprises said user manually selecting said selected portion of said data using said programmable device as an input device.

15. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 12 further comprising filtering said received data according to a set of user preferences to select said selected portion of said data.

16. The method of claim 15 further comprising building said set of user preferences.

17 (Currently Amended) [t]The method of claim 12 wherein transmitting said selected portion of said data to said programmable device is performed using a wireless communications link between said receiving station and said programmable device.

18. The method of claim 17 wherein said wireless communications link comprises a bidirectional link.

19. The method of claim 12 wherein broadcasting said data comprises cyclically transmitting a carousel of data modules.

20. The method of claim 19 wherein said broadcasting said carousel of data modules comprises transmitting said data modules via the broadcast channel of an interactive television network.
21. The method of claim 18 further comprising automatically initiating transmission of said selected portion of said data from said receiving station to said programmable device when said programmable device is within range to establish said wireless communications link to said receiving station.
22. The method of claim 12 further comprising transmitting one or more cues to said programmable device.
23. (Currently Amended) A programmable toy comprising:
a memory configured to store program data;
a control unit configured to perform one or more actions based on said program data stored in said memory; and
a receiver configured to receive ~~said program data~~ a notification signal from a transmitter indicating said transmitter is ready to convey program data to said receiver, wherein in response to said receiving said notification signal said receiver is configured to emit a user-sensible signal to indicate that said toy should be brought into communication with said transmitter in order to receive said program data;
wherein said programmable toy is configured to select a portion of said program data and store said portion of said program data in said memory and to discard the remainder of said program data.
24. (New) The system of claim 10, wherein said instructional cues instruct said user in how to reprogram said programmable device.
25. (New) The system of claim 1, wherein said receiving station is configured to transmit said notification signal with a first range and transmit said program data with a second range,

wherein said first range corresponds to a distance said notification signal may be effectively transmitted, said second range corresponds to a distance said program data may be effectively transmitted, and wherein said first range is greater than said second range.

26. (New) The method of claim 12, wherein said selected portion of said data comprises instructional cues, and wherein said method further comprises providing said instruction cues to said user.

27. (New) The method of claim 26, wherein said instructional cues instruct said user in how to reprogram said programmable device.

28. (New) The method of claim 12, wherein said receiving station is configured to transmit said notification signal with a first range and transmit said program data with a second range, wherein said first range corresponds to a distance said notification signal may be effectively transmitted, said second range corresponds to a distance said program data may be effectively transmitted, and wherein said first range is greater than said second range.

29. (New) The method of claim 12, wherein bringing said programmable device into communication with said receiving station comprises bringing said programmable device within said second range.

30. (New) The programmable toy of claim 23, wherein said portion of said program data comprises instruction cues, and wherein said programmable toy is further configured to provide said instructional cues to a user.

31. (New) The programmable toy of claim 30, wherein said instructional cues instruct said user in how to reprogram said programmable toy.